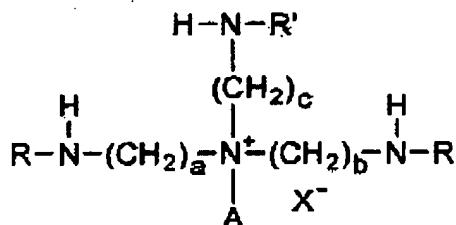


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

In the claims, please amend claim 6 as follows:

1-5. (canceled)

6. (currently amended) A ~~monomer for forming a polymer~~ process for condensing a nucleic acid comprising polymerizing a monomer having the general structure:



in the presence of the nucleic acid wherein:

R is selected from the group consisting of an orthogonal protecting group and hydrogen;

R' is selected from the group consisting of an orthogonal protecting group, targeting group, reporter molecule and hydrogen;

A is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and alkyl group;

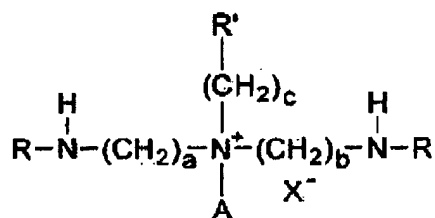
a is selected from the group consisting of 1, 2, 3, and 4;

b is selected from the group consisting of 1, 2, 3, and 4;

c is selected from the group consisting of 1, 2, 3, and 4;

X⁻ is a monovalent ion.

7. (previously presented) A monomer for forming a polymer deliverable to a cell having the general structure:



wherein

R is selected from the group consisting of a protecting group and hydrogen;

R' is selected from the group consisting of vinyl, acrylate, methacrylate, acrylamide, methacrylamide, and a targeting group;

A is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and alkyl group;

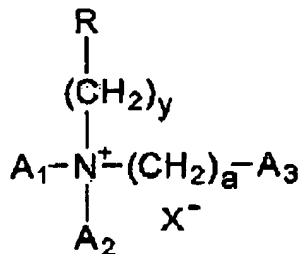
a is selected from the group consisting of 1, 2, 3, and 4;

b is selected from the group consisting of 1, 2, 3, and 4;

c is selected from the group consisting of 4 to 24;

X⁻ is a monovalent ion.

8. (previously presented) A process for condensing a nucleic acid comprising polymerizing a monomer having the general structure:



in the presence of the nucleic acid wherein

R is selected from the group consisting of vinyl, acrylate, methacrylate, acrylamide, or methacrylamide;

A1, A2 and A3 are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and alkyl group;

a is selected from the group consisting of 1,2,3 and 4;

y is selected from the group consisting of 4 to 24; and,

X is a monovalent ion.

9-10. (canceled)